



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Kurita, S. &
Blonigan, W.

FILED: September 26, 2000

SERIAL NO.: 09/671,504

FOR: Process Chamber Lid
Open Equipment

§ ART UNIT: 1746

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CONFIRMATION NO.

5209

EXAMINER:

~~Chaudhry, S.T.~~

DOCKET: 004947

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AS
5/6/3

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents

BOX DAC

Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed August 7, 2002, Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-5, drawn to a lid assembly, with traverse.

The Examiner states that lid apparatus recited in claims 1-5 in Group I can be used to practice another and materially different process. The apparatus can be used to practice a process whereby the lid of the process chamber is not lowered to a position below the process thereby breaking the vacuum seal of the process chamber and wiping down the chamber using chemical cleaners. Applicants respectfully disagree that

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this encompasses a process materially different from that recited in claim 6 in Group II.

Once the lid on the process chamber is raised or opened by the lid assembly the vacuum seal is broken. Additionally, one could not physically wet clean the process chamber without breaking the vacuum seal. Applicants concede that the sequence of the claim steps with respect to breaking the vacuum seal may be confusing.

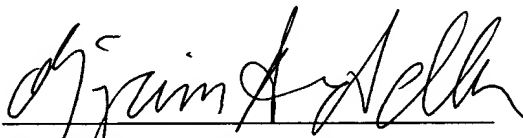
Nonetheless, the lid is rotated 180 degrees in the raised position so that it does not hinder access to the interior of the process chamber. Lowering the lid to a position below the process chamber in and of itself does not break the vacuum seal, lowering further improves accessibility to the chamber and to the lid itself. Not lowering the chamber lid does not affect the wet-cleaning process per se, the chamber is wet-cleaned. Thus, Applicants submit that the lid assembly is not being used in another process if the chamber lid is not lowered after being raised. As such, Applicants request that claim 6 in Group II be rejoined with claims 1-5.

This is intended to be a complete response to the Restriction Requirement mailed September 11, 2002. If any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the

undersigned attorney of record for immediate resolution. Applicants are filing this Response to Restriction Requirement with a Petition to Revive an Unintentionally Abandoned Application. Please debit the \$1300 revival fee or any additional fees required from Deposit Account No. 07-1185 on which the undersigned is allowed to draw.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 11, 2003
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